



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Manistee Reservation, MI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was selected to receive two brownfields cleanup grants. Located on the Manistee Reservation on the eastern shores of Lake Michigan, the federally recognized Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (tribal population 3,318) reaffirmed its government-to-government relationship with the United States in 1994, when it began rebuilding a sustainable tribal community on the Manistee Reservation. Today, 23 percent of the tribe's families



New
2006

Cleanup Grants

\$250,500 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians for two brownfields cleanup grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Pow Wow Grounds on M-22 and US-31 north of Manistee, which is contaminated with farm waste, pesticides, and arsenic. The 87-acre site was formerly orchards, a landfill, and dumping grounds. Funds also will be used for community outreach activities. Grant funds also will be used to clean up the East Lake site/Former Manistee Forge Property at 159 Brickyard Road, Manistee, which is contaminated with foundry slag, arsenic, chromium, and other metals. Benzene has been found in the groundwater. The 32-acre site was formerly a salt production and lumber mill, and a manufacturing facility for chemicals, heavy equipment, and fiberglass automobile parts. Funds also will be used for community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, MI
231-398-2182

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

live in poverty, and the tribe has a 28 percent unemployment rate. Restoration of the tribe's land base is a key ingredient in its economic revitalization. Brown-

fields redevelopment will generate jobs, develop a viable and self-sustaining economy, and address risks to human health and the environment. When the Pow Wow grounds site is cleaned up, it will be used as a park, greenspace, campground, retail shops, and cultural facility. When the East Lake site is cleaned up, it will provide access for boating and fishing and be used as a field office for Tribal Natural Resources and Public Safety Departments, a trail system, and residential housing.